This election...

BACK A FRESH START FOR HARINGEY

with the Liberal Democrats

When I first decided to get involved in politics a decade ago, it was because I had a simple ambition of wanting to make the place I call home **a better, fairer one.**

I saw an area with such opportunity, but lacking support from a distant council where the priorities seemed all wrong.

I was seeing Hornsey Town Hall, a prized public asset, flogged for just £3.5 million to an overseas bidder, whilst at the same time our high street was lacking any support or investment. Meanwhile our Labour councillors were jetting off to property conferences in Cannes, and spending tens of thousands of pounds to design a brand new council logo. And the Lib Dems were the only party speaking up against it. Unearthing scandals, and fighting against every poor decision.

I wanted to bring a different kind of politics. Like so many Lib Dems, my politics is born through wanting to empower an area and help it thrive, not through top-down, *'we know best'* decision-making.

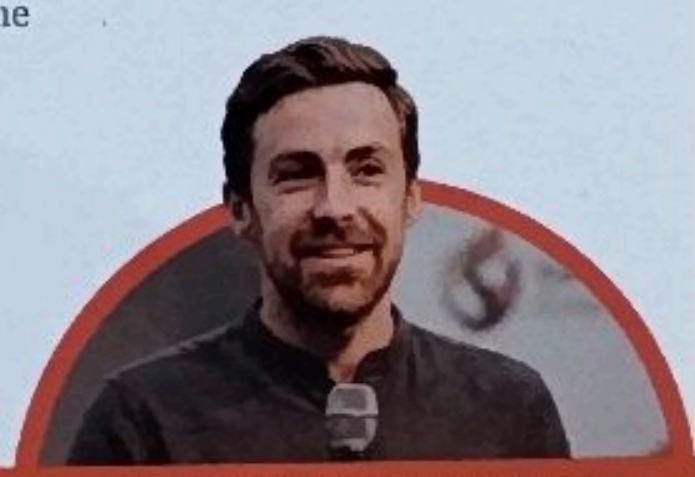
Sleeves-up, get-things-done, listen, care, make lives better, bring-people-with-you politics.

As a councillor for Crouch End for the last eight years, that has been my commitment to my ward and our community. That has been the commitment from all of my Liberal Democrat councillor colleagues to their communities too - and I hope that our reputation affirms that.

It has also been my commitment to everyone in Haringey as Leader of the Opposition.

But whilst we are proud to have achieved much even as the Opposition party here in Haringey, there is so much that needs changing at the council, and the Lib Dems are ready to deliver it.

No resident should have to put up with Haringey being the most complained about council in England two years in a row. Or with council homes left damp, holes in roofs and safeguarding referrals left unread. **That's not fairness.** But when you have a council that fails to communicate, fails to listen, and too often fails to even answer the phone, it comes as no surprise.



The problem is that, having run the council for 56 years, Labour can no longer change the culture. They are part of it. They are simply out of ideas.

And now, after years of our warnings on their spending, Haringey Labour have confirmed they will need to borrow the fourth largest amount of any council in England just to balance their budget. Worse still, they have no plan to bring the borrowing down.

That is why we need a Fresh Start for Haringey, led by those with a proven track record, and with the experience required to make it happen.

We need to rebuild the council from the ground up. A council designed in 2026 serving the needs of the present and the future.

The Liberal Democrats are ambitious for Haringey. Our desire burns brighter than ever before, to build a better Haringey.

We are ready to deliver a Haringey where polities and choices happen in people's homes, in parks, libraries, leisure centres, town centres, businesses, places of worship and everywhere in between. Not hidden away in brand new vanity project council offices costing the taxpayer £70 million. We want to bring fairness back to Haringey.

6,000 new council homes, plus new affordable and intermediate homes; customer services in our town centres; a financial transformation plan with real oversight; protecting and investing in our public assets, green spaces and town centres; working with the Met to bring visible community policing back to our streets; creating the spaces and opportunities for every resident to thrive; and so much more. **Read more about out plan for Haringey at: haringeylibdems.org/change**

The change that's needed won't be easy, and you shouldn't believe anyone that tells you it will be - but we cannot go on like this. **The Lib Dems are the only party** ever to come close to overturning the Labour majority in Haringey, and we are the only party with the experience to lead the change we need. **This year let's finally make it happen.**

That ambition I spoke of which got me into politics a decade ago - to make the place I call home a better, fairer one - is bigger and brighter than ever. **It's for the whole of Haringey.**

We are ready to deliver.

On 7 May, back a Fresh Start for Haringey with the Liberal Democrats.

Yours,

Luke Cawley-Harrison

Leader of the Opposition at Haringey Council
Haringey Liberal Democrats